

# Does COVID-19 affect animals?

For more complete guidance on COVID-19 and pets, please [click here](#).

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## What does isolation mean, and how is it different from quarantine?

Isolation and quarantine help protect the public by preventing exposure to people who have or may have a contagious disease.

- Isolation separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick.
- Quarantine separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick.

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/index.html>

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## What should older people do to stay safe?

The CDC says early data suggests that people 60 and older are twice as likely to suffer a serious illness from coronavirus disease than younger people. For seniors and people with serious chronic health conditions such as heart and lung

disease, diabetes and cancer, the CDC recommends that they “avoid crowds as much as possible.” Other suggestions:

- Stay home as much as possible and avoid crowds, especially in poorly ventilated space.
  - Stock up on supplies, including medications, food and other household items.
  - When you go out in public, including to doctor appointments or dialysis, keep away from others who are sick, limit close contact and wash your hands often.
  - Take everyday precautions to keep space between yourself and others.
  - Have a plan if you get sick, and communicate often with relatives, friends or neighbors.
  - For more information, see the CDC’s [recommendations](#).
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## Should my organization cancel an upcoming event?

All individuals, when in public, (e.g. parks, outdoor recreation areas, shopping areas), should maximize physical distance from others. **Social settings of more than 10 people, where appropriate distancing may not be practical, must be avoided (e.g. receptions, trade shows).**

The number of individuals in a particular location will be strictly controlled in order to make sure that safe social distancing is maintained. Some of these limits are addressed for individual industries in the [industry guidance](#), but where it is not otherwise stated, **the upper limit is 30% of fire code occupancy (excluding staff) for Phase 1 (starting June 1, 2020).**

Fully unenclosed outdoor gatherings of up to 250 people are permitted if public health precautions are in place to protect against the spread of COVID-19 ([read the guidance](#)).

Read more about [Phase 1 reopening here](#).

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## **Should I wear a mask to prevent catching coronavirus disease?**

You should wear a cloth face covering or mask whenever you are in a public setting, according to the [thirteenth modification of the State of Emergency declaration](#). This is to protect others from the risk of getting infected. Public settings include grocery stores, convenience stores, pharmacies, doctor's offices, and public transportation. Businesses and services can refuse entry to individuals who do not have a face covering. Delawareans are urged to use cloth face coverings and reserve medical-grade masks for use by health care workers and first responders. Delawareans wearing a face covering should practice strict hand-washing before and after touching the face covering, according to the Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH).

Face coverings are NOT a replacement for washing hands, practicing physical distancing, and staying home. Delawareans who are sick should wear a face covering over their nose and mouth if they must be around other people – even while at home.

Governor Carney's order does not require children aged 12 or younger to wear a face covering. Any child 2-years-old or

younger MUST NOT wear a face covering, due to the risk of suffocation.”

The use of face masks is also crucial for health workers and other people who are taking care of someone infected with COVID-19 in close settings (at home or in a health care facility). Read more about [Guidance for Face Coverings](#).

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## **How can people help stop stigma related to COVID-19?**

People can fight stigma and help, not hurt, others by providing social support. Counter stigma by learning and sharing facts. Communicating the facts that viruses do not target specific racial or ethnic groups and how COVID-19 actually spreads can help stop stigma.

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## **Is there a treatment?**

There is no specific antiviral treatment recommended for COVID-19. People with COVID-19 should receive supportive care to help relieve symptoms. For severe cases, treatment should include care to support vital organ functions. People who think they may have been exposed to COVID-19 should immediately call ahead to their health care provider before visiting a clinic, doctor’s office, or hospital in person.

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# How contagious is the virus?

- People are thought to be most contagious when they are most symptomatic (the sickest). Some spread might be possible before people show symptoms. There have been reports of this occurring with this new coronavirus, but this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads.
- Check the CDC website for more information: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/transmission.html>

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## Should I travel?

- CDC does not generally issue advisories or restrictions for travel within the United States. However, cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) have been reported in many states, and some areas are experiencing community spread of the disease. Crowded travel settings, like airports, may increase chances of getting COVID-19, if there are other travelers with coronavirus infection. There are several things you should consider when deciding whether it is safe for you to travel.
- Check the CDC website for more information: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-in-the-us.html>.

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# How do I keep myself and my family safe?

- As of June 1, 2020 Delawareans are no longer under stay-at-home orders. We all still need to continue to take precautions like staying at least 6 feet apart from others, wear a face covering, and:
  - Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and hot water. If you do not have access to soap and water, use hand sanitizer until you can wash your hands.
  - Avoid touching your face or mouth with unwashed hands.
  - Sneeze or cough into your elbow, and if you use a tissue, throw it away immediately.
  - If you are sick, stay isolate from others in your household.
  - Check the “[What You Can Do](#)” section of this website for updates.